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United States Government Accountability Office
Washington, DC 20548

January 23, 2006

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld
The Secretary of Defense

Attention: DOD Office of the Inspector General
Technical Director for Audit Follow-up
and GAO Affairs

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This letter is to inform you of a new U.S. Government Accountability Office engagement, code 350790. The enclosure provides information on the assignment. If we determine it is necessary to visit locations other than those specified in the enclosure, we will advise you. This assignment is being done in conjunction with job code 320305, Efforts to Improve the Security Situation in Iraq. You were previously notified of this effort on August 3, 2004.

We would appreciate your notifying the appropriate officials of this work. Please contact our office to set up an entrance conference.

Sincerely yours,

Henry L. Hinton, Jr.
Managing Director, Defense Capabilities
and Management

Enclosure

Enclosure

INFORMATION ON NEW GAO ENGAGEMENT

Engagement Subject: Review of the Development of Iraqi Support Operations

Engagement Code: 350790

Source for the Work: GAO is beginning this work on the initiative of the Comptroller General.

Objective(s)/Key Question(s):

- (1) What is the plan(s) and status of developing an Iraqi Security Force (ISF) logistical, command & control, and intelligence capability?
- (2) How is the plan(s) synchronized with plans for the drawdown of U.S. forces?
- (3) What metrics are in place to measure plan progress, and do these metrics enable one to measure progress?

Agencies and Anticipated Locations to be Contacted: The Department of Defense, the Department of State, U.S. Central Command, Multi-National Force Iraq. Travel to Tampa, Florida, and Iraq is anticipated. Other locations to be determined.

Estimated Start Date: January 2006

Time Frame for Holding Entrance Conference: As soon as possible

GAO Team Performing the Engagement: Defense Capabilities and Management

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